# THE CROXLEY MASTER---FROM THE GREEN FLAG \_\_\_\_\_A. CONAN DOYLE.

ty and of dignly was and the expected the same from his assistants. His appearance and words were always vaguely benevolent. A sudden impulse came over the despondent studnet. He would test the reality of this philanthropy.

"I beg your pardon, Dr. Oldaere," said he, rising from his chair; "I have a great favor to ask of you."

The doctor's appearance was not encouraging. His mouth suddenly tightened and his eyes fell.
"Yes, Mr. Montgomery?"

"You are aware, sir, that I need only one more session to complete my sourse."

dark, nsolent eyes, and the Jaw and throat of a buildog.

"Look y'ere!" said he again. "Why hest thou not sent it medicine opp as thy moster ordered?"

Montgomery had become accustomed to the brutal frankness of the Northerr worker. At first it had enraged him, but after a time he had grown callous to it and accepted it as it was meant. But this was something different. It was insolence—brutal, overbearing insolence, with physical menace behind it.

"What name?" he asked coldly, "Barton Happen I may give the cause to mind that name, young man. Mak' opp it wife's medicine this very moment, look ye, or it will be the worse for thee," Montgomery smiled. A pleasant sense

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"What name?" he asked coldly, "Barton Happen I may give the cause to mind that name, young man. Mak' opp t' wife's medicine this very moment, look ye, or it will be the worse for thee."

Montgomery smiled. A pleasant sense of relief thrilled softly through him. What blessed safety-valve was this through which his jangled nerves might find some outlet. The provocation was so gross, the insult so unprovoked, that he could have none of those qualins which take the edge off of a man's mettle. He finished sealing the bottle upon which he was occupied and he addressed it and placed it carefully in the rack.

"Look here." said he, turning round to the miner, "your medicine will be made up in its turn and sent down to you. I don't allow folk in the surgery. Wait outside in the waiting room, if you wish to wait at all."

"Yoong man." said he miner, "thou's got to mak' it wife's medicine here and now, and quick, while I wait and watch thee, or clee happen thou might need some medicine thysel' before all is over."

"I shouldn't advise you't to festen a man who is helding himself in with difficulty. "You'll save trouble if you'll go quictly. If you don't you'll be hurt. Ah, you would? Take it, then!"

The blows were almost simultaneous—a savage swing which whistled past Montgomery's ear, and a straight drive which took the workman in the chin. Luck was with the assistant. That single whizzing uppercut and the way in which it was delivered, warned him that he had a fermidable man to deal with. But if he had underrated him, and had laid himself open to a fatal blow.

The miner's head had come with a crash against t



MAKES BREAD THAT FATTENS

BAKING POWDER

the assistant's upper arm. Then with his other hand on his wrist he bent the forcarm sharply, and felt the bleeps, as round and hard as a cricket ball, spring up under his fingers. "Feel that!" said he. The publican and herse-breaker felt it with an air of revergice.

"Gentlemen," said Montgomery, think that you will acknowledge that I have been very patient with you. I have listened to all that you have to say about my personal appearance, and now I must really beg that you will have the goodness to tell me what is the matter."

They sat down in their serious, bust

seeing the name on a medicine label.'

"Well, you may take it from me that he's a slaughterer," said the horse-break-er. "You've taught him a lesson that he worth five shillin' in a public court. He won't be so ready now to shake his nici in the face of every one he meets. How-ever, that's neither here no there." Montgomery looked at them in bewild-

bitterly that morning that there was no market for his strength, but here was one where his muscle might earn more in an hour than his brains in a year. But a chill of doubt came over him.

"How can I fight for the coal-pits?" said he. "I am not connected with them."

"Eh. lad, but thou art!" cried old Purvis. "We've got it down in writin', and it's clear enough. 'Any one connected with the coal-pits.' Doctor Oldacre is the coal-pits.' Doctor Oldacre is the coal-pit club doctor; thou art his assistant. What more can they want?"

"Yes, that's right enough." said the Cantab. "It would be a very sporting thins of you. Mr. Montgomery, If you would come to our help when we are in such a hole. Of course, you might not like to take the hundred pounds; but I have no doubt that, in the case of your winning, we could arrange that it should take the form of a watch or piece of plate, or any other shape which might surgest itself to you. You see, you are rerponsible for our laving lost our champion, so we really feel that we have a claim upon you."

"Give me a moment, gentlemen, It is

"Thank you; I will let you know the hour," said Montgomery; and so the committee departed jubilant upon their

money, which meant so much to him. If he lost, it would only mean a thrashing. He could take punishment without

with an estentatious prayer book in his hid-gloved hand, broke in upon his med-intion.

"You don't go to service, I observe, Mr. Mrntgomery," said he, coldly,

"No, sir; I have had some business to detain me."

take the form of a watch or piece of plate, or any other share which might surgest liked to you. You see, you are rerponsible for our having lost our channel of the property of the receipt of the property of the fight, that is all that concerns any of the fight, that is all that concerns any of the fight, that is all that concerns any of the combined were livestible, "Centimen," said he, 'I'll do it!" The three sprang from the law can be the cantel where the combined were livestible, "Gottlemen," said he, 'I'll do it!" The three sprang from the law can be the cantel concerns any of the fight, that is all that concerns any of the fight, that is all that concerns any of the fight, that is all that concerns any of the fight. The three sprang from their soats, the post of the fight, that is all that concerns any of the combined were irrestible, "Gottlemen," said he, 'I'll do it!" The three sprang from their soats, the profit would either have attracted Montgomery. The publican had esteed his right hand, the horse had been considered with the cantel the content of the best known in the back.

"Good lad! Good lad!" creaked the publican, "The mount is the Cantel of the publican had esteed his right hand, the horse had not the back.

"Good lad! Good lad!" creaked the publican, "The horse sprang from being just a common doctor to the best known in the back.

"Good lad! Good lad!" creaked the publican, the publican had esteed his right hand, the horse had been channel to be the state of the publican had esteed his right had been channel to be the state of the publican had esteed his right hand, the horse had been channel to be the state of the publican had esteed his right hand, the horse had been channel to be the state of the publican had esteed his right hand, the horse had been channel to be the state of the publican had esteed his right had been channel to be the state of the publican had esteed his right had been channel to be the state of the publican had esteed his right had been channel to be the state of the pu

But now there are reasons why I wish to have a holiday upon Saturday."

Doctor Oldacre gave in with a very bad grace.

"Of course, if you insist upon your formal rights, there is no more to be said. Mr. Montgomery, though I feel that it shows a certain indifference to me it is in the i grace.

"Of course, if you insist upon your formal rights, there is no more to be said, Mr. Montgomery, though I feel that it shows a certain indifference to my comfort and the welfare of the practice. Do you still insist?"

"Yes, sh."

"Yes, god. Have your way."

The doctor was boiling over with anger, but Montgomery was a valuable assistant—steady, capable and hard working—and he could not afford to lose him.

"No, sir."

"In the country?"

"Yos, sir."

"You are very wise. You will find a quiet day among the wild flowers a very valuable restorative. Had you thought of any particular direction?"

"I am going over Croxley way."

"Well, there is no prettier country when once you are past the iron works What could be more delightful than to lie upon the Fells, basking in the sunshine, with perhaps some instructive and elevating book as your companion? I should recommend a visit to the ruin of St. Bridget's Church, a very nteresting relic of the early Norman era. By the way, there is one objection which I see to your going to Croxley on Saturdry. It is upon that date, as I am informed, that that rufflanly glove fight takes place. You may find yourself molested by the blackguards whom it will

and inspected their man as he went through some light exercises to keep his muscles supple. He was certainly in stendid condition, his skin shining with health, and his eyes with energy and confidence. The three walked round him and exulted "He's simply ripping!" said the undergraduate. "By gad, you've come out of it splendidly. You're as hard as a pebble, and fit to fight for your life." "Happen he's a trife on the fine side," said the publican. "Runs a bit light at the loins, to my way of thinkin'." "What weight to-day?" "Ten stone eleven," the assistant answered

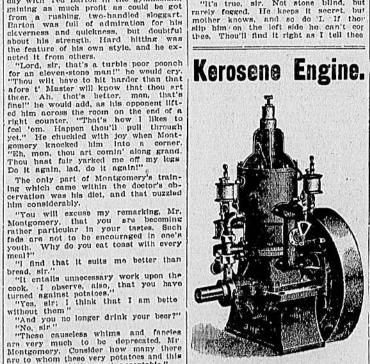
just breakin' her heart, over young 'un, what do you want' The door of the gymnasium

seized him by the collar.
"See here, thou young whelp, this is private, and we want noan o' thy spy-

we'd like thy mon to know, sir, for we went him to fair bray him."
"Oh, you want the Master fair brayed, do you? So do we. Well, what have

"Well, suppose it is?"
"Then it's him I wanut to tell about, "" Maister is blind o' the left eye."
"Newsons."

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